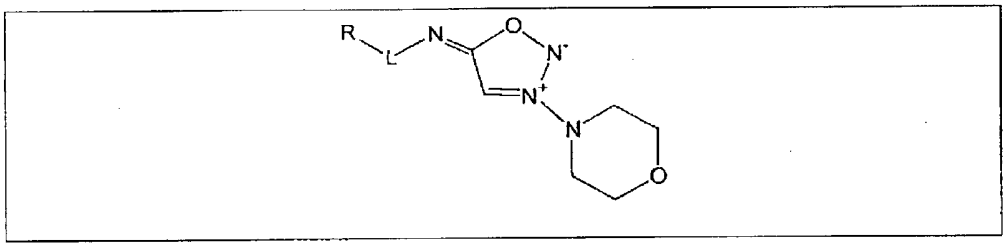
II. Remarks

Claims 1-20 are rejected and pending. Responsive to the Office action, claims 1-13 and 15-16 have been amended. Moreover, claims 21-33 have been cancelled. With the claims listed above and the remarks provided below, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of claims 21-33 from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention under 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b). Moreover, the Applicant has cancelled claims 21-33 accordingly.

Responsive to the rejections of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, claims 1-20 have been clarified to indicate that a linsidomine compound contains a sugar moiety.

For example, amended claim 15 now recites that a "linsidomine compound" comprises "a sugar moiety, a SIN-1 moiety and a glycosidic bond disposed between the sugar and SIN-1 moieties, the linsidomine compound SIN-1 having the general structure



wherein L is a bond or a bifunctional linker group and wherein R is the sugar moiety and can comprise a carbohydrate." One of ordinary skill in the art would be apprised of the scope of the invention as claimed in amended claim 15.

Responsive to the rejections of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of *Keefer et al.* (USPN 6,290,981) and *LaClair* (USPN 6,140,041), there is no suggestion or motivation to combine *Keefer et al.* with *LaClair*. For example, claim 1 recites a linsidomine compound comprising a sugar moiety, a SIN-1 moiety and a glycodisic bond disposed between the sugar and SIN-1 moieties. In use, the sugar moiety recited in claims 1-20 ensures that the NO donor compound is inactive

until it encounters an appropriate activating enzyme, such as a glycosidase. (*Specification*, paragraph [0009], lines 8-15.) In the Office action, the Examiner states that *Keefer et al.* fail to teach a linsidomine covalently attached to a sugar moiety via a carbonyl-containing group, but argues that *LaClair* teaches fluorescent dyes conjugated to carbohydrates via a linker. However, *LaClair* does not teach a glycosidic bond disposed between sugar and SIN-1 moieties as claimed in the present application. Rather, *LaClair* teaches linking fluorescent dyes to nucleic acids, carbohydrates and peptides for protein and DNA labeling. (*See LaClair*, col. 9, lines 55-61.), and there is no suggestion or motivation of including a glycosidic bond disposed between sugar and SIN-1 moieties. Furthermore, *LaClair* fails to suggest or provide motivation for uses other than for fluorescent dyes in protein and DNA labeling.

Moreover, *Keefer et al.* fail to suggest or provide motivation to modify the teachings in *Keefer et al.* to that of which is disclosed by *LaClair*, admixing a dye labeled biomolecule with a binding molecule. (*See LaClair*, col. 9, lines 55-61.) *Keefer et al.* simply teach a method for the treatment of impotency in a male animal wherein a nitric oxide donor or nitric oxide-releasing agent contains a penile erection-inducing amount of nitric oxide to be administered to the male animal. (*See, Keefer et al.*, col. 5, lines 44-65; *see also* abstract and claim 1) The teachings in *Keefer et al.* are absent any suggestion or motivation of linking a SIN-1 moiety with a carbohydrate.

Therefore, claims 1-20 are in a condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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